



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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August 14, 1997

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *aa*

RE: Site Inspection, Pene Mining, Pussycat Claims Mine, S/019/030, Grand County, Utah

Date of Inspection: July 14, 1997
Time of Inspection: 1220
Conditions: Clear skies, hot
Participants: Ron Pene, Operator; Jim Cooper, John Andrews, Rick McBrier, Kevin Carter, Dave Terry, SITLA; Tony Gallegos, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To examine the mine site while in the area.

In the course of going to look at the Wind River Resources State Section 13 Mine site (S/019/041), we stopped at the north end of the Pussycat Claims. Mr. Pene assembled his microscope and generator to show the SITLA staff some of the minerals he has recovered from mining in this area. While here we briefly examined this new mining area.

The recent mining activity at this north end appeared to include the creation of road cuts to provide access down near the river. A small cut had also been made in the river bank to allow access for a water line to the river. The water line has been used to pump water up from the river to the bench where a portable trommel/separation circuit has been set up. At this time there were small piles of reject cobbles and gravels at the trommel site. The volume of each of the reject materials is less than one 55-gallon drum full of materials. The trommel equipment is set up to drain the reject water into a small impoundment. The impoundment has been created on the top of this bench by pushing a small berm up in a minor ephemeral drainage. At the time of this inspection there was some water currently within this small impoundment.

Mr. Pene indicated that this north site is on BLM land; however, it is located outside of the Wilderness Study Area ("WSA") border. He recently submitted documents to the Division to describe these proposed activities; however, at the time of this inspection I had not yet reviewed that submission. These new disturbances will need to be included in the current small mine notice. The Division will need to determine the new cumulative amount of surface disturbance for this operation to ensure compliance with the five acre limit for small mine operations.

(Note: The submission referenced is a June 13, 1997, letter and map from Mr. Pene. The letter describes the existing disturbances in this area as 2 existing roads, an old house foundation, 3 old work sites and 2 old sump ponds.)

jb
cc: Ron Pene, Operator
Brad Palmer, BLM Grand Resource Area
Mary Ann Wright, Wayne Hedberg DOGM (route)
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